

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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UNCLAS DUBLIN 1265

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL IN IRISH INDEPENDENT JUNE 8, 1977

FOLLOWING EDITORIAL APPEARED IN IRISH INDEPENDENT
ON JUNE 8, 1977 UNDER HEADING BREZHNEV'S GIFT:

THE NEW SOVIET CONSTITUTION, THE FULL TEXT OF WHICH HAS
RECENTLY BEEN PUBLISHED, PROVIDES NO REASON AT ALL FOR
BELIEVING THAT THINGS ARE BEING MADE ANY EASIER FOR THE
MILLIONS OF SOVIET CITIZENS WHO WILL BE AFFECTED BY IT.

TRUE, IT CONTAINS A LIST OF RIGHTS WHICH, IN THEORY,
THOSE CITIZENS ARE ENTITLED TO: BUT ALMOST IN THE
NEXT LINE THE DRAFTERS WARN THAT THE RIGHTS CANNOT BE
USED IN A WAY WHICH GOES AGAINST THE COMMUNIST PARTY.
SO HELSINKI IS BEING PLACED IN ITS PROPER PERSPECTIVE -
IT APPLIES EVERYWHERE IN THE WORLD EXCEPT IN COMMUNIST
DICTATORSHIPS.

THERE IS NOTHING NEW IN THE CONSTITUTION, AND IT CERTAINLY
ALLOWS NO FOOTHOLD FOR ANYONE WHO MIGHT WANT TO SET
UP A PARTY OPPOSING THE COMMUNIST SYSTEM - IN FACT
TO DO SO WOULD BE REGARDED AS TREASON AND TREATED IN
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THE COURTS AS SUCH.

IT IS, MOREOVER, A CONSTITUTION WHICH WILL NOT BE
PUT TO THE PEOPLE FOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL. A
CROWD OF CAREFULLY VETTED AND ORCHESTRATED DEPUTIES
WILL APPROVE IT WITHOUT A DISSENTING VOICE - AND
WOE BETIDE THE MAN OR WOMAN WHO STANDS UP AND SAYS

HE OR SHE WANTS MORE.

THE PUBLICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION WAS PRECEDED BY A
STATEMENT FROM BREZHNEV SAYING THAT THERE WOULD BE
NO RETURN TO STALINIST TIMES. POSSIBLY. BUT IT IS
BECAUSE THE PARTY CAN CLAIM PRECEDENCE OVER THE
GOVERNMENT THAT THE POSSIBILITY EXISTS OF JUST
SUCH A RETURN. IT HAPPENED IN STALIN'S TIME.

COMMUNIST PARTIES AROUND THE WORLD WILL HARDLY BE
PLEASED WITH THIS NEW ARCHAIC FORMULATION OF MOSCOW'S
RIGHT TO GUIDE THEM - A RIGHT WHICH MOST OF THE
EUROPEAN PARTIES HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM MOSCOW. AND IN
MANY OTHER PLACES THE QUESTION WILL BE: WAS A 15-YEAR
LABOUR REALLY NECESSARY WHEN SUCH A MOUSE WAS PRODUCED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Sent Date: 08-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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